

# Model Village Project, 1904

## HAINES? ALASKA.

Plan for work among the natives at Haines Mission.

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I. The entire work - white and native - will be in charge of Rev. Norman B. Harrison, with Mr. A. R. Mackintosh as assistant, whose duties shall be to advance the interests, spiritual, industrial and material, of the natives.

II. Mr. Mackintosh shall, in consultation with, and by the approval of, Mr. Harrison, (1) Formulate and submit to the Board a plan looking toward the building up of a Model Native Village. (2) Encourage and give direction to them in the erection of cottages and the growing of small fruits and garden vegetables, on lands allotted to them by the Board for such purposes. (3) Create and foster in them a desire to undertake the cultivation of the soil on a larger scale than ordinary gardening, thus teaching them to clear lands and plant and cultivate crops for market as well as for home consumption; the Board receiving a certain portion of the produce for the use of the land so occupied, and as part compensation for services rendered by the missionary as instructor.

III. Whatever articles may be manufactured in the shops, or produce grown on the farm lands by the labor of the pupils in the school or the men of the village, working under the direction of Mr. Mackintosh - without compensation of course - as well as all such articles made or produced by him working independently, shall belong to the Board, and the proceeds of the sale thereof shall be applied toward the payment of the expenses connected with the mission, thus looking toward self-support.

IV. In order that these <sup>plans</sup> ~~reports~~ may be carried out, Mr. Mackintosh shall be provided with tools, team and wagon, farming implements and the necessary seeds for planting the first crop.

V. Mr. Mackintosh's salary shall be \$800, with the free use of such part of Willard Home for his family as may not be used for classroom and industrial work, together with a sufficient amount of ground for a private garden.



3-31-04.  
S. L. THOMPSON

Haines, Alaska, Feb. 19th, 1904.

H.C. Olin,  
156 Fifth Ave, N.Y. City,  
Dear sir:-

At last we are able to forward to you the proposed plan for our new village. We believe it covers the ground quite thoroughly. The Board probably has had experience in such matters, at least to some extent, and may find it wise to add some detail, as for instance stipulating a minimum cost for which a house may be erected to prevent their building in such poor fashion as to frustrate the purpose of improving their home conditions.

The location for the village is the best under the circumstances but it is not ideal. The most tempting lots to the natives will be those facing Main St, with white men's lots and cabins immediately

opposite. It would be preferable to have a strip of land between the village and the town but we are so conditioned by the presence of the whites that it is extremely improbable that we could get the natives to separate themselves in this way. I would however advise the pushing of the village plat one block further westward removing them somewhat from the business center and leaving more of our Main St. frontage for rental purposes when the time is ripe for such a step. The Board has expended so much on this property that they should plan to have some income in the future to help run the work. By this plan ten or a dozen lots would be available.

The diagram of lots is not entirely satisfactory to me. You will notice that the town has six lots to the block with a width of 75 ft. for the cross streets. Mr. Mackintosh objects that this width takes too much land, but I believe we would always find it an eye-sore and the other width would take but 100 ft. more for the whole length of the village. So I feel that our cross streets should be uniform and continuous with the town cross streets.

In drawing up the Protocol, Mr. Mackintosh had in mind a statement to be signed by the Board declaring to the natives that they set apart this land for the purposes of a village and that we are authorized to proceed with such a project.

Let me state further, very frankly, that the present Salvation Army movement is a great menace to the success of this project. They have so withdrawn themselves from our influence and leadership, along independent lines, that not only could we not count on them to favor this but we would need to count on their opposing it and influencing others against it. The village is so small - this winter our largest congregation was about 160 while usually it was around 100 - and there is such a large percentage of old people who could not be expected to build in the new village (nor are they able financially), that a division of the people would seriously cripple the undertaking. To tell you the truth, I believe I could with more heart face the old customs than this determined separatism on the part of those who sadly need our instruction but egotistically set themselves up as leaders that they may be free



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to do as they choose. I have been waiting and hoping for some favorable word regarding an agreement with Headquarters for their discontinuance here but if such has not been reached, I will say this - not to speak of many things that I could mention and will mention later if necessary. I believe the Board should represent to Headquarters how ~~we~~ we have invested a great deal of money here at Haines which will be apparently wasted if an independent movement is allowed to continue among so limited a tribe dividing them so that we would be unable to carry out our plans. That we have two men here to look after them and a large tract of land taken up for their benefit on which we propose to colonize them teaching them to live in a more approved manner. That this to succeed needs the sympathy and cooperation of the natives, especially in view of a more or less hostile white population. That we on the field know the temper of the native Salvationists well enough to predict their opposition for their own ends even though Headquarters should not intend it.

Again, you will notice that this plat is placed on the Marquam claim. We have heard nothing further regarding this case but I wish it were possible for you to get some assurance from the Land Office that would warrant us in proceeding to carry out our plans upon this ground. The name of their agent who visited us last summer is J.W. Witten.

One more matter regarding the laying out of the village: the streets of the town running parallel to Main St. are 100 ft. wide - altogether too much - while Main St. is only 50 ft. We could not think of giving a strip 50 ft. wide to make <sup>MAIN ST</sup> the full width but in locating the church it was set far enough back to allow of at least 10 ft. being given to the street and I would advise that a strip of ten ft. be laid off all along before the village lots are surveyed.

We have several people interested in locating on the Mission and I believe a good beginning can be made as soon as the Board sees it's way clear to adopt a plan and set apart the land for this purpose.

As for the Industrial Work, all has been going well so far, but we think we can see deeper water ahead. Mr. Mackintosh and I have both been kept very busy with the work this winter and then I felt that the whites were not getting enough of my attention. The starting of this new village will be a great time-consumer - this with the chores and manual labor of farming will take about all of one man's energy. To successfully carry on the work the Board should have cows and chickens, requiring more time. The coming of the troops and the development of the white work will make larger demands on me. This will tend to throw more and more of the native work back upon Mr. Mackintosh until eventually the two works will be virtually distinct. He is too valuable a man for us to allow his wearing himself out on merely manual labor (and there is more of this labor to be done than one realizes till they are on the ground to see for themselves as I hope some representative of the Board will be next summer). A right policy and the needs of the case then would call for a laborer to work under



his direction. Such a man could nearly pay for his services if we had cows and chickens for him to care for.

Or another plan I have had in mind to compass this needful thing is to secure a part of my salary from the Government for services as chaplain, devoting what is saved thereby to the Industrial work. This could doubtless be arranged satisfactorily to the Baltimore Church which is supporting me but the question is whether it could be with the Government. But the prior question to all these is whether the Board would favor it. I will want to give considerable attention to the boys and it would help me to have an official standing with them. I spoke to the Captain in charge of construction and he said such an arrangement would be without precedent as far as he knew and the only similar arrangement would be that of Contract Surgeon. He however suggested that the Board take it up with the Sec. of War. It might be that they would commission me as chaplain for this Post with the privilege of looking after the town work.

Now I am not at all positive about this being the best course but it has occurred to me as a solution to the problem of compassing our increasing duties and I therefore submit it to the Board. My own feeling is that if I am to do work for the Government it might as take a hand in paying for it if we can so arrange, and I also feel loathe to take for myself so much of the Board's money as I know will be required before we attain to self-support.

Pardon this lengthy communication and believe me always,  
Sincerely yours in the work,

*Thomas B. Harrison.*



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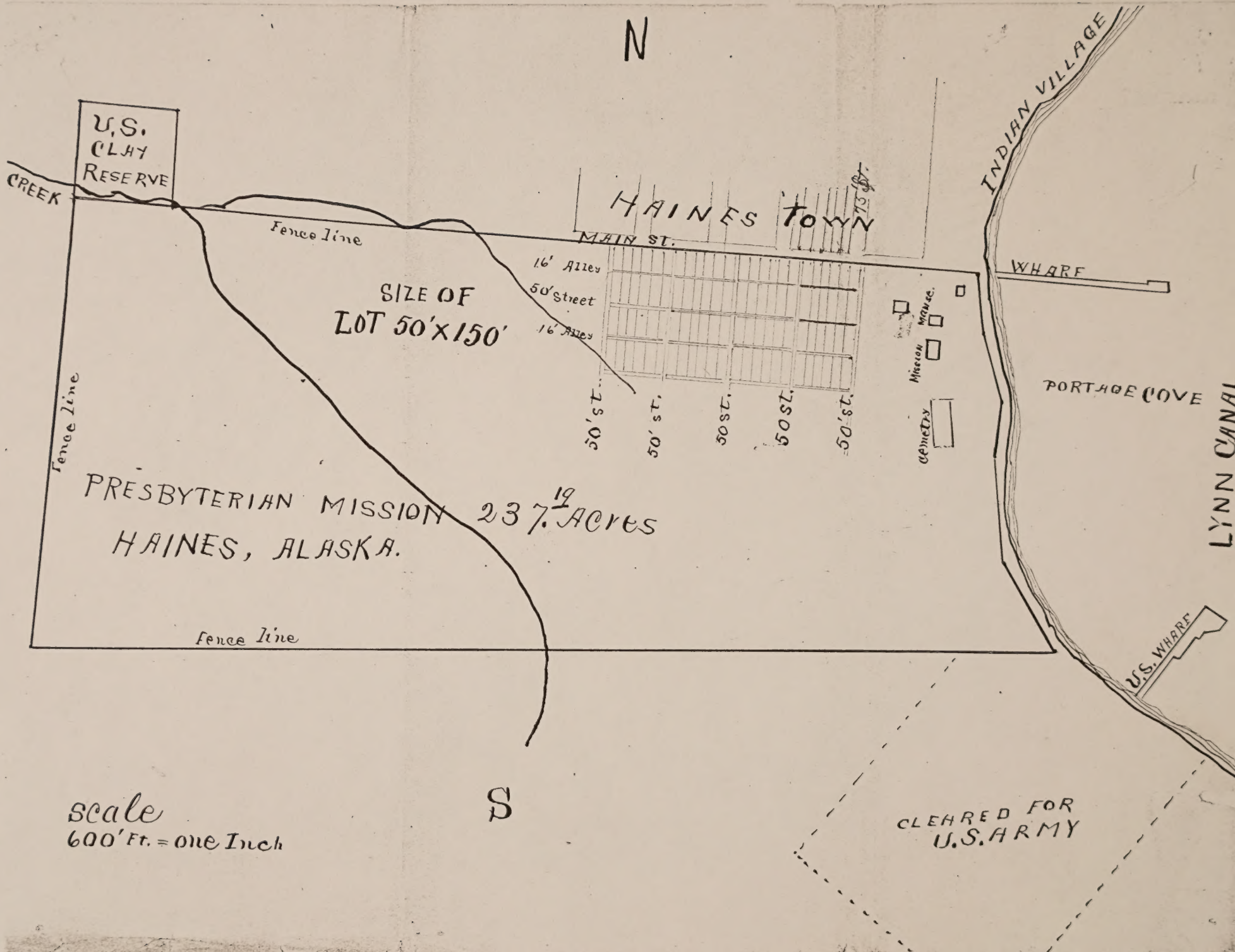
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*Thomas B. Harrison.*





Harriet—

Suggested plan  
for Native  
Cottage Settlement



New York, December 13th, 1904.

Mr. A. R. Mackintosh,

Raines, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Mackintosh:-

Your letter of October 31st, with report for the quarter ending September 30th, was received sometime ago.

I want to congratulate you upon being able to make such an excellent report of the work done among the natives from a spiritual standpoint. Your outline <sup>of</sup> subjects presented in your Bible study at prayer meetings, etc., is very comprehensive. Certainly, these people are having a splendid opportunity to learn more of the Word of God; and I trust that they are being benefitted thereby, and thus better prepared for their places as Christian citizens and active workers among their own people.

I have passed over to the Treasurer your statement that you had expended for your own benefit some money belonging to the Board for the payment of labor on the house you had erected for yourself. He will be able to adjust that entirely to your own satisfaction and that of the Board, I have no doubt.

The most important part of your report is that which speaks of the rule of the Board in regard to giving the natives permission to occupy mission land for their own personal benefit. We have fully tested the matter at Sitka, and are perfectly content to abide by the results. Our model village there has accomplished a great deal, not only in the way of encouraging the villagers themselves to build good houses and properly furnish them, but in living according to Christian rules. These families are model families, and their in-



fluence is widely felt among their own people, and is stirring up the occupants of the native village to build for themselves more commodious houses and to adopt more Christian methods of living.

It is no part of the work of the Woman's Board of Home Missions to manage a communal colony, or to become responsible for a co-operative industrial or commercial company. It is our work particularly to preach the gospel of Christ to the people, to induce them to become Christians, and then to train them, as far as possible, to live devoted Christian lives, and to become intelligent Christian citizens. In order to do that, we believe that it is far better for them to be instructed in American ideas, and to be impressed with the thought that they are American citizens, and as such are entitled to the rights and privileges of all other American citizens. These rights and privileges include ownership of individual homes and the right to vote in municipal elections, and thus have a voice in their own government.

Metlakatla and Fairhope, under the present management, may be and, doubtless, are, very successful along certain lines; but when the present heads of these establishments pass away, these Indians will be no better prepared for American citizenship than they were before. In fact, the training that they are receiving now will disqualify them for independent and aggressive work as American citizens.

Therefore, I can only reiterate what has been written before, that you are authorized to permit any native people who are (1) married in the Christian way, (2) will obligate themselves to keep the Sabbath and abstain from intoxicating drink and tobacco and give up their old tribal customs, and (3) build a house not to cost less than



if we occupy land owned by the Pearl. If the Government has these rules are complied with, when the Board has title from the Government that land will be decided to them in severalty.

All others - whites or natives - must be evicted off our premises as you have already been doing.

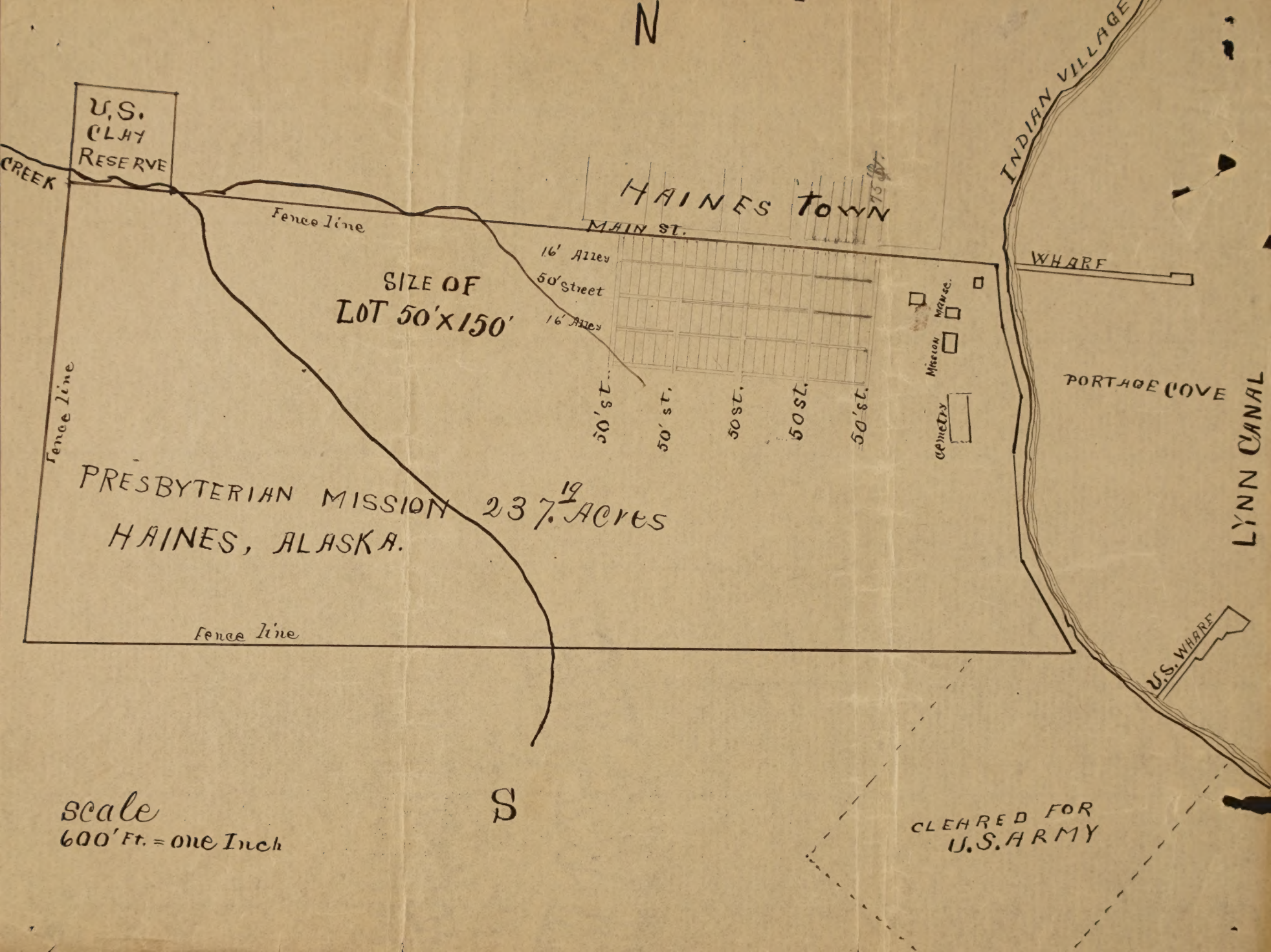
I do not quite understand the situation in regard to the public school building. I judge, from what you say of it, that it is between the Government barracks and the mission buildings. It seems to me that the Board would not object seriously to giving the public school authorities a small piece of land for public school purposes, but that does not appear to be the proper place for it. It ought to be between the mission and the village, it seems to me, or on the north line to our property somewhere west of the mission buildings.

In regard to the sending of an ordained minister, I will only say that that matter is left entirely in the hands of the Board. As you know full well, there can be two heads to no institution. will be expected, therefore, I have no doubt, when an ordained missionary is appointed, that he will have full and complete control of the mission property and mission work.

Very sincerely yours,

*Wm. H. A. W. Jr.*







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